



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET-AT-A-GLANCE



Trade sentiment was steady. Retail demand was slow to fair as seasonal interest for other holiday items surfaced. Food service was fair to moderate, fairly good for catering services and restaurants. Supplies of all sizes were usually sufficient for trade needs. In the parts structure, trading was light to fair. Bone-in breasts were balanced to tight, and wings were available to close and still moving. The remaining parts were at least adequate or obtainable. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading remains unchanged 69.00 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 61.25 cents last year on December 11, 2002.

Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted prices on ice-packed parts for next week's trading.

ITEM	DOCK PRICE (CENTS PER POUND)
LINE RUN TENDERS	199.00
BREASTS - B/S	169.50
BREASTS - WHOLE	88.50
THIGH MEAT - B/S	94.00
LEG QUARTERS	30.50
WINGS	103.50

This information is supplied by the Georgia Department of Agriculture's Poultry Market News Service.

SOUTHERN Trade sentiment was mostly steady. Retail demand was light to fair, food service was fair to fairly good, best for fast food promotions. Supplies were usually sufficient to handle trade needs. In the parts structure, trading was mixed. Breast items were better balanced for bone-in and fronts, adequate for boneless skinless. Dark meat was sufficient, and wings continued to clear well. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

NORTHEAST Trucklot buying interest on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was seasonally fair at best during midweek trading. Offerings of all sizes were sufficient for current needs. Movement through retail and distributive channels was about fair. The market tone was generally steady. In the parts complex, bone-in breasts were in very close balance. Boneless-skinless breasts were adequate to available. Wings were clearing well. The balance of cuts were sufficient.

MIDWEST The market tone on whole broiler/fryers was steady. Offerings of whole birds and wogs were very limited for the generally light trade interest. Movement into all sectors was light to fair, instances fairly good into casual dining restaurants. Floor stocks were adequate to fully adequate, weights desirable. Trading on parts remained mostly quiet and selective as establishments continue to work off current commitments. Supplies were adequate or available with wings in the closest position. The market tone was steady to fully steady on wings and steady on all other parts.

WESTERN The market tone was generally steady. Offerings fully adequate. Retailer demand light to moderate. Floor stocks adequate.

CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

19 STATES	PERCENT CHANGE	
WEEK ENDING 12/06/03	2003	2002
EGGS SET	202,883	199,994
CHICKS PLACED	167,042	161,841
		PREVIOUS YEAR
		+01
		+03

Broiler Eggs Set In 19 Selected States Up 1 Percent Commercial hatcheries in the 19-State weekly program set 203 million eggs in incubators during the week ending December 6, 2003. This was up 1 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 83 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

Broiler Chicks Placed Up 3 Percent Broiler growers in the 19-State weekly program placed 167 million chicks for meat production during the week ending December 6, 2003. Placements were up 3 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 29, 2002 through December 6, 2003 were 8.15 billion, down slightly from the same period a year earlier.

WEEKLY FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING Based on the preliminary chick placements, the number of fryers available for the marketing during the week ending 16-Jan-04 is estimated at 152.4 million head. This compares to 148.2 million head the previous week and to 152.4 million head the same week a year ago, when the slaughter was 155.0 million head and the composite weighted average price was 61.89 cents per pound.

DECEMBER 09, 2003

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

DECEMBER 10, 2003

F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

POUNDS					POUNDS				
ITEM	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	ITEM	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	852	129.00-223.00	132-135	135.54	BREAST - B/S	872	129.00-223.00	132-135	135.58
TENDERLOINS	177	140.00-215.00	140-147	152.25	TENDERLOINS	190	140.00-215.00	140-147	151.89
BREAST - LINE RUN	72	80.00-93.00	82-84	84.69	BREAST - LINE RUN	82	82.00-93.00	82-84	84.61
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT				FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	89	37.00-51.00	37-38	38.42	LEGS	88	37.00-51.00	37-38	38.27
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	260	26.00-29.00	26	26.46	LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	260	26.00-29.00	26	26.46
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,125	28.00-32.00	29-31	29.77	LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,080	28.00-32.00	29-31	29.80
WINGS (WHOLE)	295	99.00-106.00	-	104.10	WINGS (WHOLE)	300	99.00-107.00	-	104.68
WINGS (CUT)	497	107.00-120.00	111-115	112.77	WINGS (CUT)	497	107.00-120.00	111-115	112.94
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

 WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR — F.O.B. DOCK.

 F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
51.00 - 55.50	52.02	50.00 - 56.00	52.33	52.39

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS

Trucklot buying activity was about fair during midweek trading. Offerings of bone-in breasts remained in good balance and were clearing under normal premiums. Boneless-skinless breasts were adequate to available. Dark meat cuts were adequate. Wings were clearing satisfactorily. Retail movement was fair, however, distributive draw was lackluster. The market tone was cautious on boneless-skinless breasts, fully steady on bone-in breasts, and about steady on the balance.

*PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES. **DECEMBER 09, 2003**

DECEMBER 10, 2003

CURRENT NEG				WTD	CURRENT NEG				WTD
ITEM	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS		ITEM	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS	
BREAST - B/S	145	145.51	788,918		BREAST - B/S	145	145.60	582,140	
TENDERLOINS	145	139.75	197,490		TENDERLOINS	145	144.76	104,120	
BREAST - WITH RIBS	75-76	83.52	164,560		BREAST - WITH RIBS	76-77	82.42	143,480	
BREAST - LINE RUN	75	77.57	158,600		BREAST - LINE RUN	76	78.10	118,200	
LEGS	38-39	36.45	414,320		LEGS	38-39	36.80	428,240	
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	29-30	29.26	378,158		LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	29-30	29.70	328,727	
DRUMSTICKS	36-37	36.87	182,269		DRUMSTICKS	36-37	38.74	128,280	
THIGHS	34-35	39.78	119,410		THIGHS	35-36	39.48	83,840	
B/S THIGHS	85-86	88.12	84,430		B/S THIGHS	85-86	86.56	62,480	
WINGS (WHOLE)	93-94	101.08	182,560		WINGS (WHOLE)	93-94	98.59	117,400	
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.98	38,040		BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.89	52,080	
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	35-40	30.09	20,610		LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	35-40	33.74	22,400	
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	60-65	67.59	23,500		GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	60-65	69.78	25,120	

 INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG).

* TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG WTS		ACTUAL WTS	
	12/10	12/09	12/08	12/05	12/08	12/05	12/03	12/01
ALA	3,928	4,000	3,923	4,403	5.27	5.22	3,846	5.19
ARK	5,397	5,388	5,394	6,262	5.16	5.10	5,139	5.13
DELMARVA	2,010	2,217	2,203	2,444	5.53	5.78	1,992	5.72
KY-LA-TN	1,988	1,756	1,977	1,963	5.04	4.88	1,952	5.07
MISS	2,884	3,030	2,970	2,745	5.43	5.46	3,066	5.55
NC	2,481	2,337	2,374	2,349	6.34	6.31	2,398	6.45
TEXAS	2,469	2,468	2,445	2,484	5.07	4.84	2,473	5.06
TOTAL	21,157	21,196	21,286	22,650	5.37	5.32	20,866	5.40
MON-WED	63,781 (A)						62,577 (A)	

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 12/10 is estimated to be 31,653,000 up 1.1 percent from a week ago and up 3.4 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 31,312,000; last year 30,603,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RETAILERS	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	91-97
ROASTERS 4# & UP	81-95
HENS UNDER 5#	-
HENS OVER 5#	60-63
DUCKS	-
RABBITS-WHOLE	-
RABBITS-CUT UP	-

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK	99-100
	DRY PACK	101-103
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	89-105
	DRY PACK	105
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK	91
	DRY PACK	89
DUCKS		152-175

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 13-DEC-03

	CURRENT WEEK 12/13/03 (1)	PREVIOUS WEEK 12/06/03
CLASS	THOUSAND HEAD	
BRO-FRY	161,100 (2)	157,263
LT HENS	1,501	1,525
HVY HENS	1,337	1,486
CHECK TOTAL	163,938	160,274

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 13-Dec-03 is 150.2 million head compared to 156.8 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 161.4 million head or 11.2 million more than estimated available. For week of 20-Dec-03 the estimated available is 147.8 million head.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS-SELECTED STGE CENTERS
(INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEY LBS	PROCESSED POULTRY LBS
AM 12/08/03	120,415	44,559
AM 12/01/03	110,555	44,473
CHG	9,860	-914
PCT CHG	9	-2

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	12/08/03	12/01/03	12/09/02	12/08/03	12/01/03	12/09/02
PACIFIC						
COAST	11,772	10,948	6,623	3,726	3,653	5,016
LOS						
ANGELES	396	410	105	1,751	1,832	3,701

CENTRAL MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY RTC HENS

READY-TO-COOK PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR DELIVERY TO FIRST RECEIVERS, U.S. GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 LBS. AND UP, FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 8, 2003

		RANGE
HENS	ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	58-65
	VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	66-76

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES

FOR 12/09/03

AI PAPERS REQUIRED TO SELL ALL OUT OF STATE POULTRY

	LOW	HIGH	AVG		LOW	HIGH	AVG
HEAVY FOWL lb.	.35	.55	.40	HEAVY FOWL ea.	-	-	-
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	.80	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	3.00	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	-	.35	-	MIXED FOWL ea.	-	2.50	-
BANTAMS lb.	-	-	-	BANTAMS ea.	.50	1.00	-
BROILERS lb.	-	-	-	BROILERS ea.	-	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	.30	.45	.35	ROASTERS ea.	-	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	-	-	-
PULLETS lb.	1.50	3.50	-	PULLETS ea.	-	-	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	-	-	-
ROOSTERS lb.	.70	1.80	.98	ROOSTERS ea.	1.00	1.50	-
GEESE lb.	-	-	-	GEESE ea.	-	-	-
TURKEYS lb.	-	-	-	TURKEYS ea.	-	-	-
DUCKS lb.	.90	1.50	1.22	DUCKS ea.	-	-	-
RABBITS lb.	.75	1.65	1.24	RABBITS ea.	1.00	1.50	-
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	1.50	4.75	-
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea.	-	4.00	-
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	-	-	-
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	-	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	-	-	-
SILKIES ea.	-	-	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	-	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	3.50	-	TURKEY POULTS ea.	-	-	-
CHUKARS ea.	-	-	-				
TOTAL COOPS	94						

MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS - Mexico City

Cents per pound for the week ending December 5, 2003

	Whole Chickens	Breasts	Legs w/ Thighs	Necks,Back &Wings	Livers/ Gizzards	Hens
RAYON						
Low	42.21	105.51	56.82	12.17	12.17	40.58
High	42.61	113.63	64.93	16.23	16.23	40.58
Mostly	42.61	113.63	60.87	16.23	16.23	40.58

SAN JUAN

Low	41.80	105.51	56.82	12.17	12.17	40.58
High	42.61	113.63	60.87	16.23	16.23	40.58
Mostly	41.80	109.57	56.82	16.23	16.23	40.58

NEW SAN JUAN

Low	41.80	105.51	56.82	12.17	12.17	41.39
High	42.61	113.63	60.87	16.23	16.23	41.39
Mostly	42.21	109.57	56.82	12.17	16.23	41.39

BECERRA

Low	42.21	105.51	56.82	12.17	12.17	41.39
High	43.02	113.63	64.93	16.23	16.23	41.39
Mostly	42.61	113.63	60.87	16.23	16.23	41.39

DELMARVA Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds varied and was about moderate overall. Seller offerings were adequate and were in the closer, better balance on the larger sizes. Live supplies were moderate; weights were mostly desirable. Processor schedules were moderate. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 62 to 71 cents. Trade sentiment was steady. In the parts complex, buyer interest continued to center on a tight supply of whole breasts. Boneless/skinless breasts and tenders were fully adequate. Thighs were clearing well. Other cuts were generally noted as adequate and in a manageable balance.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA

**BRANDED
U.S. GRADE A**

RANGE	61-75
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	65.20
NO. OF BOXES	6,592

*7 of 7 plants reporting.

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